

REMARKS

Claims 140-196 remain in this application. Claims 140, 148, 152, 155, 163, 170, 172, 177, 179, 181, 184, 190, and 194 have been amended to correct minor informalities. The amended and added claims are supported by the specification and no new matter has been added. No claims have been added or cancelled. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

As an initial matter, the Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for his careful examination and for finding allowable subject matter. The Examiner has indicated that claims 140 -196 are allowed.

Objection To Parent Case Paragraph

The Examiner has objected to the parent case paragraph as improper since the present case and U.S. Application Ser. No. 09/251,391 include no inventor in common. Applicant respectfully submits that documents are currently being submitted to add Paul H. Glad to U.S. Application Ser. No. 09/251,391. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the parent case paragraph be withdrawn.

Initialization Of IDS References

The Examiner did not indicate that the "Other Document" references listed on page 11 of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 18, 2003 were considered and made of record by initialing the corresponding boxes on the PTO-1449 forms. In the Office Action, there was no indication that these references were not in conformance with MPEP 609. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate

these references have been considered and made of record by initialing all of the "Other Document" references listed on page 11 of the PTO-1449 forms submitted June 18, 2003 and return a copy thereof to the Applicant with the next Office Action.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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